

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 /018 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:DGWAGNER:ZC
APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:JCHAAHR
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P 102040Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
INFO SOUTHCOM PANCANAL

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PN, PBOR, PGOV, EWWT, SEDU

SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN ENROLLMENTS AT KINGS POINT MERCHANT
MARINE ACADEMY

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING A PROPOSAL THAT LEGISLATION
BE REQUESTED TO ALLOW MORE THAN TWO PANAMANIAN TO ATTEND
KINGS POINT MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY AT ANY GIVEN TIME. THE
NUMBER INVOLVED HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. THE PURPOSE OF
THE LEGISLATION WOULD BE TO TRAIN STUDENTS WHO COULD EVEN-
TUALLY BECOME CANAL PILOTS. NO STUDENTS WOULD BE ADMITTED
UNLESS THEY MEET ALL OF THE OTHER REGULAR ADMISSION CRITERIA.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY EVALUATION OF THIS PROPOSAL, INCLUDING
WHETHER THIS WOULD BE SEEN BY THE PANAMANIAN AS AN ATTEMPT
TO UNDERMINE THEIR OWN NEWLY FOUNDED MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY,
WHETHER IT INDEED WOULD UNDERMINE THE NEW ACADEMY, WHETHER
THE PANAMANIAN WOULD WELCOME SUCH A GESTURE ON GENERAL
GROUNDS, WHETHER TREATING KINGS POINT AS A KIND OF ADVANCED
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SCHOOL WOULD BE PREFERABLE, AND HOW MANY STUDENTS EITHER
PER YEAR OR AS A TOTAL NUMBER WE MIGHT CONSIDER ADMITTING.

3. ALSO REQUEST EMBASSY PROVIDE REPORT ON THE PANAMANIAN
MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY, CONCENTRATING ON THE LENGTH OF
INSTRUCTION, CURRICULUM, SHIPBOARD EXPERIENCE, AND QUALITY

OF INSTRUCTION. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH CANAL
COMPANY ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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